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The Indiana Teamster

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INDIANA

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Indianapolis, Indiana, January, 1945

Toth Is Elected President of Drivers Council

Kern State Labor Chief; Promises "No Wild Ideas"

By KENNETH HUFFORD

A native Hoosier, whose father and mother also were born in Indianapolis, Charles Kern—unassuming and serious-minded—is typical of Indiana labor leaders. He took the oath of office yesterday as state labor commissioner.

"I believe labor leaders in Indiana take a reasonable attitude toward management in the settlement of their mutual problems," the 60-year-old appointee declared. The reason they do, in my opinion, is because they don't have to espouse any wild ideas in order to be leaders."

Business manager of the United Association of Steamfitters local here 31 years, "Charlie" has been a leading figure in the growth of unionism. He also has been president of the state building and construction trades council 21 years.

There is no doubt, believes Mr. Kern, that there are certain localities in the nation where it is difficult to maintain good labor-management relationships.

"I dislike to use the term 'radical' in describing the attitudes that prevail in these communities," Mr. Kern declared. "It's a dangerous word to use and it doesn't always mean what it implies."

Discussing the war labor board, the new commissioner said that "it probably was necessary to have certain controls over both labor and management during the war period."

"In the end, it will be admitted, I think, that it all was for the best. But, I don't believe the majority of labor or management think so now."

He admitted that transactions of the board haven't always been handled as speedily as possible.

"I don't like to make any forecasts," Mr. Kern remarked frankly, "but I am apprehensive about the future. As soon as restrictions due to the war are removed, we'll feel a reaction. We can anticipate many labor groups then will do something about their problems."

Formula Is Simple

His formula for good labor relations—which he intends to use in his new job—is simple and easily understood.

"To promote harmonious labor relations, it is necessary that both sides recognize the position of each other," Mr. Kern believes. "In this way, problems can be worked out."

The commissioner was given the oath of office by Judge Wilbur Royse of the Indiana appellate court, as Thomas Hutson, retiring commissioner, watched.

Of him, Mr. Kern said:

"He's an old friend and fellow labor leader. I'm very fond of him."

He's a Diplomat

A diplomat, Mr. Kern indicated nothing in his manner or remarks that would mark him as anything but impartial.

An old AF of L man, he nevertheless shares with the CIO credit for good labor-management relations in the state.

Following the ceremony, Mr. Kern announced appointment of two deputy mine inspectors and two inspector-conciliators.

William Gibbons, Shelburn, and George Tilley, Bicknell, are the new mine inspectors. The conciliators are Vachel Herrington, Muncie, and Frank Gardner, Marion.—The Indianapolis Times.

11,900,000 Now in Services

WASHINGTON.—The armed forces of the United States now number 11,900,000. Of that number 8,100,000 are in the Army; the remainder in the Navy, Marines and Coast Guard.

SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE LAUDS TEAMSTER UNION

Announcement that another waste paper salvage drive will come this month directs attention to salvage drives in the past and the vast amount of work devoted to them, especially by members of the Chauffeurs', Teamsters' and Helpers' Local Union No. 364, of which Walter E. Biggs is president. Many persons do not realize that to collect metal, waste paper and tin requires many helpers and many trucks. If these were not available, the drives probably would be failures or close to it.

Since these drives became necessary, this union has furnished trucks, drivers and helpers for two separate scrap metal drives and six waste paper drives. On the metal drives approximately 375 trucks were used and collected 2,813,600 pounds of metal. The six paper drives netted 2,018,976 tons. For these six drives the union furnished a total of 725 trucks.

Donate Truck Service

The use of all these trucks was donated by various employers and individual owners. Drivers, helpers, employers, owners and the union did not receive any pay from the proceeds of any of these drives nor was any pay asked for nor was there any feeling that the union was entitled to any pay.

"We are still willing to go ahead in any way humanly possible for the welfare of our country and the good of the community in which we live," said President Biggs.

The V-12's supplied helpers for one paper drive, the Boy Scouts worked on four drives, the city's high schools furnished helpers for one and the teen-age group worked on one drive as helpers along with the Boy Scouts. This cooperation of the union and these others helped to make these various drives a success so far as collecting metal and waste paper was concerned. The greatest drawback was the lack of interest on the part of so many citizens who would not collect their waste paper or waste metal and place it on curbs for collection.

It is believed that if every home had placed its waste paper on curbs for collection, the tonnage would have been much greater. It is pointed out that when the next drive comes, probably toward the end of January, a large tonnage will be collected if those who have not been interested will awaken to the situation, show they are patriotic, and place their paper for collectors. It is argued that they should be willing to do this little when South Bend boys are fighting in mud, water, snow and cold to save the country. The waste paper situation is serious. The war needs paper now.

Provide an Orchestra

The Teamsters' Union service for the men in war does not end with using trucks to collect waste paper and metal. For the last three months it has provided, is still doing so, and expects to continue, an orchestra every Saturday night for

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New President



STEVE TOTH

Retiring President



PAT HESS

Vote of Jan. 19 Drivers Council

The Indiana State Drivers Council has elected Steven A. Toth president to succeed Pat Hess.

The election was held January 19th at a full meeting of the Council, in the Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis.

After Carl Mullen, head of the Indiana State Federation of Labor, had explained to the delegates certain phases of legislation which is coming before the present general assembly, the next order of business was the election of officers of the Indiana Teamsters.

The president nominated was Pat Hess, who has been president for six years, and, without whom "there couldn't be a Teamsters Union." He was nominated by Steven Toth of Lake County.

Pat Hess refused the nomination for another year, because of the fact that he had served for six previous years and felt he said, "That someone else should carry on."

Hess is a Republican. He is conservative. He has done as much for organized labor in Indiana as any other one man in the state. No one could call him radical; no one could criticize him politically.

A feeling was expressed among the Indiana Teamster officials, although they did not say so in so many words, that—without a Hess—you could not have a union.

Toth, leader of the Teamsters in Lake County, is a tower of strength physically as well as mentally. He is a big man in a lot of ways.

Toth pointed out that Mr. Hess had been head of the Drivers Council for six years, and had missed only one meeting in all that time, and that he was responsible for helping to make the union of Indiana Teamsters the strongest union in this state.

When—after two ovations—Pat Hess refused to accept the honor of a seventh year as president of this organization, the delegates unanimously chose Steven A. Toth.

Other officers elected were: Charles Miller, of Vincennes, vice-president, and Robert Summers, of Michigan City, trustee. C. B. Birdsong, of Evansville, was re-elected secretary-treasurer, and O. B. Chambers, of Kokomo, was re-elected recording secretary.

Legislative Committee

The legislative committee selected to scrutinize all bills coming before the 1945 General Assembly in Indiana included Pat Hess, chairman, Steve Toth, Joe Williams, Russel Houze, Pat Mahoney, C. B. Birdsong and O. B. Chambers.

Lester Hunt Denounces "Public Enemies" in Senate

By LESTER M. HUNT

The election is all over, but a lot of work remains to be done. We must finish in 1946 what we started in 1944.

A number of rabid and reactionary isolationists were thrown out of Congress by the voters. A number still remain, some of whom were out of reach of the voters because they are senators whose terms do not expire until 1946.

The most notorious of these are:

Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana.
Senator Henrik Shipstead of Minnesota.
Senator Raymond E. Willis of Indiana.

They should all be retired to private life in 1946. Their continued presence in the Senate is a menace to the peace of America and of the world. They are men of the stamp of the late Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, whose hatred of President Wilson caused him to wreck the League of Nations and thereby usher in the bloody years in which we are now suffering.

Wheeler, Shipstead and Willis hate President Roosevelt as Lodge hated President Wilson. They will leave nothing undone to destroy his ambition to make this the last war by perfecting a world organization of nations with the power to suppress future aggressors by force.

They think they can destroy Roosevelt politically if they do this. The fact that they may also destroy thousands of our sons and grandsons in another World War is of no more concern to them than it was to Lodge a quarter of a century ago.

The Teamsters of Indiana and Minnesota are making preparations to boot Shipstead and Willis out in 1946. We hope the

(Continued on page 2)

LUDLOW SEEKS TO END SMITH-CONNALLY ACT

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Representative Louis Ludlow has introduced a bill in the 79th Congress providing for repeal of the Smith-Connally-Harness anti-labor law. In presenting the bill Congressman Ludlow said, in part:

"The first bill I introduce in the new 79th Congress is a bill for outright repeal of the Smith-Connally Law."

"The Smith-Connally Law is not a law in the customary sense of that word. It is a bundle of prejudices with an enacting clause. It has no place on the statute books of a free country. In forcing the enactment of that law, the zeal of labor-baiters overreached itself and exceeded all bounds of propriety."

"The enactment of the Smith-Connally Law was born of turbulent reactions to the conduct of John L. Lewis and it was not a calmly considered piece of legislation. To strike at John L. Lewis for his alleged misconduct was one thing. To strike at the great body of devoted, patriotic, well-meaning

organized labor because of the alleged derelictions of one man was another thing. The Congress, misled by enemies of labor, sought to make a victim of labor in general and succeeded in humiliating and penalizing all labor, largely because of the alleged derelictions of one man. A more erratic and unfair basis of legislation could hardly be imagined."

"The enactment of the Smith-Connally Bill was wrong because it left the implication that great bodies of our working men were brazenly callous to the obligations of patriotism; that they were flouting the Government and the law and were refusing to manufacture the implements needed by our soldiers on the fighting fronts—an indictment that was as untrue as it was black and foul. At the very time that indictment against our workers was made, the docks of our country were piled high with fabricated implements of war that could not be moved because of a lack of transportation facilities."

Hunt Denounces "Public Enemies" in U. S. Senate

(Continued from page 1)

Teamsters of Montana will cook up a barbecue for Wheeler. Wheeler is the most dangerous of the three isolationists, because his hatred of President Roosevelt is more intense and because he is more unscrupulous.

In his early years as a senator, Wheeler won the reputation of a liberal. He supported measures of interest to railroad men and thereby gained recognition as a friend of labor.

That was a long time ago. Coasting along on his reputation as a liberal, Wheeler has become one of the most reactionary men in Congress. But on measures where he knows that labor is watching him, he will vote right to keep his old reputation as a "friend of labor."

This is the same technique followed by the supporters and apologists for Adolf Hitler in our Congress. It was followed by Wheeler's close friend, Senator Nye of North Dakota, and by Congressman Day of Illinois.

Nye is the man who said that Germany must have the right to retain a Fascist government after the war. Day is the man who cabled congratulations to Hitler in 1933 on his rise to power in Germany.

Both Nye and Day stand convicted by their words and their voting records as friends of Fascism.

But the voting record of Wheeler is almost as bad as Day's and worse than Nye's. And his words have been similar to those of Day and Nye. In fact, Wheeler is the spearhead of the German drive for a negotiated peace that would leave Germany in the grip of Fascism and strong enough to plan for another war.

He says our determination to beat Germany into complete surrender is "stupid and brutal."

Hitler thinks so, too. So does Von Rundstedt.

"Heil Wheeler!" they must mutter in their uneasy sleep.

Nye and Day were both defeated last fall with the active help of the Teamsters of Illinois and North Dakota. The Teamsters were not deceived by the fact that Day and Nye had voted right on some labor measures when they knew labor was watching them.

The Teamsters of Illinois and North Dakota looked at the rest of the record and they saw the record of Fascists. And they knew that Fascists, no matter how they alibi their motives or their actions, are enemies of labor.

A man can't be a friend of labor and at the same time follow the line of Hitler. That was the way the Fascists gained power in Germany. They posed as friends of labor. And when they came to power they threw labor leaders into concentration camps and dissolved the labor unions.

That's when Day cabled congratulations to Hitler. And remember that Wheeler's voting record is worse than Day's.

On 42 labor, liberal and defense measures that came before the Senate since November, 1939, Wheeler voted right only seven times. That gives him a score of 16.66 per cent right on the most important measures in the most critical period of American history.

Wheeler is a Democrat, but his voting record is worse than that of the obstructionist senators during the same period. The Republican average was 16.70 per cent right.

Nothing could be much worse than that—except Wheeler. He scored only 16.66.

Wheeler's record is worse than that of Shipstead. It is on a par with that of Cuffy Brooks, the senatorial stooge of the Chicago Tribune.

It is worse than that of the Republican isolationist, Senator Danaher of Connecticut, who was defeated last fall. It is worse than that of the Republican "Puddler Jim" Davis of Pennsylvania, who was also defeated. It is worse than that of the Fascist Senator Holman of Oregon. He, too, was defeated.

And it is worse than that of Senator Taft of Ohio, one of the most dangerous reactionaries of all time.

Yet Wheeler mumbles that he is a friend of labor. Labor wanted prices kept down so that its frozen wages would buy enough food. Wheeler was against that. He voted for inflation. He also voted for the tax bill to help the greedy at the expense of the needy.

Labor wants jobs after the war. But Wheeler was against that, too. He voted to kill the National Resources Planning Board which was set up to provide jobs.

Labor wanted war profits kept down. Wheeler didn't. But he didn't have the guts to stand up and vote against it. He was absent when Congress killed President Roosevelt's plan to limit corporation salaries to \$67,000 a year during the war.

Labor wants to help the impoverished nations of Europe recover from the ravages of war and develop strong trade union movements. Wheeler does not. He voted against the United Nations relief plan and in doing so he voted to keep the people of Europe in hunger and economic slavery.

Labor wants agreements with other nations to develop international trade. Wheeler doesn't. He voted to restrict the Trade Agreements Act.

Labor wanted the soldiers to vote in the last election. Wheeler didn't. He helped the reactionaries put across their bill to deprive servicemen of their ballots.

Labor opposes poll taxes which disfranchise poor people. Wheeler doesn't. He voted against cloture on the poll tax measure. In other words, he voted to let Southern senators strangle the poll tax by a filibuster.

Labor wanted Senator James E. Murray of Montana to be re-elected in 1942. He is a liberal and a friend of labor. But

Wheeler didn't. He tried to defeat Murray and elect a reactionary. So did the Anaconda Copper Company.

Wheeler and Anaconda seem to be pretty close together these days.

Remember when the Anaconda Wire and Cable Company shocked the nation by selling worthless wire to the Army and Navy on which the lives of our fighting men depended?

Did Wheeler attack Anaconda then?

Not Wheeler. Instead, he attacked President Roosevelt.

In Ohio, Teamsters are looking to labor in Montana to do something about this man Wheeler. They have a right to ask you to do something because Wheeler passes the laws which keep Ohio soldiers from voting. He tries to kill the OPA regulations which keep down Ohio prices of food.

He is trying to kill the peace. That will send our boys back to war for a third time. He is a Montana senator, but he is a national menace. In Ohio they can't vote against him.

That's why we hope that the Teamsters of Montana will show the same enlightened leadership that they have in other states by eliminating other dangerous Fascists from public life.

Please, Montana, take this renegade off our backs!

Senator Raymond E. Willis announces that he will be a candidate for re-election.

Does that mean we must pack this sack of sawdust on our backs for another six years? Fortunately, it does not.

We are indebted to the senator for announcing his plan in time for us to do something about it. We think we can do something about it. We have two years in which to carry the record of this man Willis before the voters in every county of Indiana.

And we think that by the time we get through no one will want him.

Let's start at the beginning. Willis was elected in 1940 after having spent the first 65 years of his life in acquiring the mentality of a stuffed shirt.

He will run for re-election at the age of 71.

He was too old for military service in the first world war and was too senile to be of any service whatever in the second.

It didn't take a very bright man to recognize the thunderhead that was spitting lightning over Europe and Asia and travelling toward this country in 1940, when Willis began his career in national public life.

But Willis wasn't bright enough. He voted against one after another of the defense measures proposed by President Roosevelt to protect this country. He even opposed the extension of the selective service act.

He would have disbanded our Army in August, 1941, four months before Pearl Harbor.

On domestic legislation his record is just as bad. He was absent when the Smith-Connally-Harness bill came before Congress but he was on hand to pass it over President Roosevelt's veto.

He voted to prevent the Farm Security Administration from making loans to small farmers. He voted to cut down funds for soil conservation. Willis voted to kill the OPA regulations which kept the prices of food from soaring beyond the reach of labor's frozen wages.

He was for a scarcity of food. He was also for a scarcity of jobs. He voted to wipe out the National Resources Planning Board which was set up to create jobs after the war.

While Willis was for profiteering in food, he was also for profiteering by war contractors. He voted against the President's plan to limit salaries to \$67,000 a year during the war and

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IN THE KNOW WITH KOKOMO

By O. B. CHAMBERS

Three more men from our local have been called to the armed services. They are: Paul Hightower, from Miller Transfer Company; Charles Shanks, McClain Dray Line, and Robert Jackson, of the Armour Creameries.

Also we have received a letter from Ivan Frazier, our vice-president, who is with the Ground Transportation Corps and seems to be getting around quite a lot. He is the boy for whom the Army had trouble getting a big enough uniform. He recently was in Italy, but at present is in Egypt.

We also had word from Gilbert Moss, who was recently with Condy Coal Company and now is serving with the armed forces in Italy.

Dayton Barnes, reported wounded in action, is a member of ours and worked for Barnes Cartage Company.

Ed Woolum, who works for Newell Beverage, has his chest stuck out because his home recently was blessed with a baby girl.

After considerable time has elapsed, the City Cartage contract is back from the War Labor Board, and members will receive retroactive pay back to January 15, 1944. All members should get their pay claims in so that this can be cleaned up.

Shell American contract is back from the War Labor Board with an increase and retroactive pay back to May 14. The boys have all received their back pay checks, which made good Christmas presents for them.

A contract with General Tire Company, Wabash, has been agreed upon and is now being prepared for the War Labor Board.

Robert DeWitt is back from foreign service. He was wounded in action and saw plenty of activity in the service.

After seeing some of these boys and hearing their stories we should all try much harder to keep buying bonds and to keep the trucks rolling to bring this terrible war to an end.

Collision Is Fatal To Truck Driver

INDIANAPOLIS—Roy R. Ragsdale, 42 years old, former member of Teamsters' Union, Local 135, was injured fatally in the collision of his semi-trailer truck and an Army truck a mile south of Crothersville on U.S. 31.

The accident occurred when a third truck, sideswiped the Army vehicle, which was from Godman Field, Fort Knox, Kentucky. Sgt. John Lawrence, driver of the Army truck, was taken to the hospital at Freeman Field, Seymour. Operator of the third truck did not stop.

Mr. Ragsdale, driver for the P.W. Roehl, Inc., auto firm, was returning to Indianapolis from Louisville, Ky., on his regular run. A native of Washington, Daviess County, he had been a resident of Indianapolis approximately 10 years and had been employed by the Roehl firm eight years.

TEAMSTER KILLED

Brother Orville Franks was killed in action in December on Leyte Island.

Bro. Franks, better known as "Mortimer Snurd," was employed by the Portland Forge and Foundry Co. He was a member of Local 369 from May, 1941, until October, 1942, when he went into service.



Teamsters Joint Council 28 Renews Wartime Pledge

BOB MARSHALL



These clean kids are cleaning up. Bob is a member of Local Union No. 193, and son of Fred Marshall, who heads Local Union No. 135. At present he is stationed at the Great Lakes Training Station.

Perkins Report Like 'Swan Song'

WASHINGTON — Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins has made her annual report to Congress.

The secretary looked backward at her 12 years in office—longest term for any Labor Department head—then turned to the future, envisioning an expanded Labor Department and cautioning organized labor to measure up to its responsibilities in the postwar era.

In other years her report has been confined to the events of the preceding fiscal year. Therefore, this latest report read like a swan song.

She dealt perfunctorily with these in the new report and devoted the bulk of her accounting to a sweeping review of her department's role in achieving legislative gains for workers.

A heavy percentage of the legislation with the New Deal hallmark originated with the secretary and her helpers since she became, in 1933, the first woman Cabinet member in history.

But her resignation has been on the President's desk for at least two years. Finding a suitable successor is a major consideration because of the difficulty of nominating a candidate acceptable to the warring labor factions.

Some of those mentioned for Mme. Perkins' post, if she does quit, are Paul V. McNutt, former Governor of Indiana; ex-Vice-President Henry A. Wallace; AFL Teamster President Daniel J. Tobin; Representative Robert Ramspeck (D-Ga.), who is majority whip in the House; Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia of New York, and Anna Rosenberg, Presidential adviser on some labor matters.

Secretary Perkins has remained silent while the speculation swirls about her, refusing to comment on her status beyond the good-natured crack that "somebody's always trying to get me out of here."

Old City Ordinance Will Remedy Taxes

INDIANAPOLIS — Stricter city control over taxicab drivers was regarded as imminent as Henry B. Krug, first assistant city attorney, ordered enforcement of a 1931 ordinance licensing cabbies.

Mr. Krug's order came as he completed a search to find whether the old law, which had been unenforced and forgotten for several years, had ever been repealed or voided by court rulings.

He said the ordinance still is in effect, and directed Roy E. Hickman, city controller, in whose office is vested the power to issue the licenses, to set a dead line for drivers to procure the license.

Mr. Krug discovered the old measure while preparing an ordinance to license drivers in order to curb alleged overcharging and other illegal acts.

EAST CHICAGO LOCAL 520 SIDELIGHTS

By STEVEN TOTH

Pardon me, but this is the kid brother from an Eighth Air Force bomber station, England. T/Sgt. Vincent V. Toth of East Chicago has been awarded a fourth Oak Leaf Cluster to his Air Medal. It was recently announced by the commanding general of the Eighth Air Force.

Sergeant Toth is the radio operator gunner of a B-17 Flying Fortress and is a veteran of more than a score of the Eighth Air Force's huge daylight precision bombing assaults against the Nazi war machine. He has participated in the bombing offensives against the Reich's oil centers at Hamburg, Politz and Merseburg as well as against the transportation artillery at Cologne, Frankfurt and Munster. All of which were carried out with excellent results and greatly aided our ground forces.

The courage, coolness and skill displayed by Sergeant Toth on all these occasions reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States.

His middle name is Victor. I wonder if that has anything to do with it!

Construction work is at a standstill. We still have a few boys working.

The Certified Concrete and Lake Cities Concrete boys are doing a lot of resting these cold days.

Frank Potesak of Crane Co. was re-elected trustee.

That d— freight contract is still in Washington. I hope somebody finds time to act on it soon.

We are having a labor conciliator in on the new McKeown contract. So that will be headed into the WLB as a contested case.

Pfc. Ray S. Shellabarger wrote and said "hello" from somewhere in the Pacific.

After six months of effort, Jos. Burba, of Jusk's, finally papered two rooms in his new home. Somebody tipped Joseph off to the idea of using paste on the paper. He expects to finish the other three rooms by Easter. I think he will by that time if he takes off the boxing gloves he has been papering with.

We are sorry to hear that Frank Novak lost his sister. Jack Murrin lost his father and Matt Dillon lost his brother. To all of you, we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

To the boys at the Calumet Trucking Co.: The new wage scale for local steel and flue dust went into effect January 1.

The wife, kids and I wish to thank all of you guys and girls for the Christmas cards. Even our dog received two cards.

TEAMSTERS' MITE

INDIANAPOLIS — The International Brotherhood of Teamsters (AFL) has purchased \$500,000 of Sixth War Loan bonds, bringing the union's total holding of government bonds to \$10,900,000, President Daniel J. Tobin announced.

RULES FOR CYCLING

Here's a message for your children if they have bicycles.

Bicyclists on streets and highways have the same responsibilities in traffic as motorists, and must obey all traffic signs and rules.

Always signal before making turns.

Keep to the right and ride single file. Don't weave about.

Never stunt or race in traffic.

As another wartime New Year dawns, it is fitting that we examine our hearts and minds, that we restate our purposes, and that we renew our pledge to our country, to our employers, to the public.

This year of 1945 may be our time of greatest struggle and sacrifice. It may call upon us for more than we now think we can perform.

We know now that there will be no speedy victory in Europe. We know now that our enemies are strong, vigorous, vicious, well disciplined and well armed.

We know, too, that we must go forward. We have taken the only path open to a free people. There is no way back. Whatever liberty may cost, in the end it will be worth every drop of blood and every tear.

We have been complacent, over-confident about the war in Europe. We know that now. Though the news of the Pacific war continues good, let us not grow too confident over it. If this one defeat in France arouses our people, if it shakes our complacency, it may save us from a worse disaster.

Thousands of American soldiers have been killed, wounded or captured by the Germans in the last few days. Immense stores of munitions and food and motorized equipment have been lost to the enemy, or expended in the battle. In trucks, tires and gasoline alone, our losses have been heavy.

It does not require a prophet to tell us that this means many thousands more of our sons and brothers must be called to the colors. More guns and more ammunition, more ships and more planes, must be provided. More of our food must go to the Army—less to our own tables, perhaps. We shall have fewer new trucks, fewer tires, less gasoline. The war comes first; it will not wait.

We, here at home, must toil, as never before. We will dig down deep now for sacrifice money to support our government. We will give of our blood to the blood bank in an ever increasing stream.

Union Teamsters have a direct responsibility for the great fleet of motor trucks that carries the untold weight of war materials to Army and Navy centers and to our Ports of Embarkation.

ANTI-LABOR LAWS ON ROCKS IN THREE STATE LEGISLATURES

TALLAHASSEE, FLA.—State Attorney General Tom Watson announced he would not attempt to enforce the recently adopted state constitutional amendment banning the union shop until the measure is tested in the courts.

The labor-baiting state official said he would not undertake prosecutions under the amendment because he had discovered that a bona fide difference of opinion exists "in the minds of citizens in and out of organized labor regarding the operation and legal status" of the amendment.

What Watson did not reveal, however, was that he had made unsuccessful efforts in Washington to induce federal agencies to go along with him in his anti-union drive.

He wanted them to agree that the Florida law, and the desires of the foes of labor in that state, were above the government's wartime powers in settling labor disputes. Their response was an emphatic negative.

As a result of this, Watson pulled in his horns when he got back here and let it be known he would "not force the issue" on the new law until the courts had ruled on it.

He declared he was convinced the measure was valid, but apparently was none too confident about being able to prove so on his own, because he launched a campaign for funds to hire private lawyers to help in the litigation.

Chicago Teamsters Buy \$136,400 in Bonds

CHICAGO, Ill.—Joint Council 25 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America has invested \$136,400 in bonds of

SAN FRANCISCO—A new anti-union drive to outlaw the union shop in California has collapsed because of the failure to interest enough citizens to sign petitions to get the proposed measure on a referendum ballot in 1945.

The abortive anti-labor legislation was proposed by the "Women of the Pacific," a reactionary organization seeking to mask its evil purposes by hiding behind women's skirts.

The organization will continue collecting signatures, however, under plans to bring the measure before the legislature in 1947.

An anti-closed shop initiative was defeated at the November 7 election 1,893,589 to 1,304,418, but those soldier ballots which were counted separately showed a ratio of more than two to one in favor of the measure.

The measure proposed by the "Women of the Pacific" is more drastic than the one on the 1944 ballot. It would not only end the compulsory closed shop in the state, but would require that all officers of labor organizations be American citizens and residents of the state for at least a year; would compel unions to have "secret" elections by ballot; would require them to make public annual financial statements, and would prohibit officers from using union funds for political purposes "unless first approved in great particularity or detail by secret ballot votes of a majority of all members."

the Sixth War Loan. This total represents personal investments by local officials and purchases made from local treasury funds and does not include payroll savings participation and extra bond purchases of the individual local members.

kation. More than ever, it is now our job to make those trucks last, to conserve precious rubber and gasoline through strict adherence to the reasonable speed regulations of the ODT.

This is our pledge. We will keep the wheels of the motor-trucking industry rolling. Under no circumstances will we sanction or permit a strike in our crafts during this war. We will continue to strive, to the best of our ability, to render honest, safe and reliable transportation service. We will maintain our close cooperation with forward-looking employers to the end that mutual confidence and understanding may prevail.

We will buy more War Bonds; we will support the Red Cross and the Community Chest. We will do our full part in all enterprises for the common welfare of our country, our state, our cities and communities. We will welcome returning veterans of this war into our ranks without the payment of initiation fees and find them good jobs in our various lines of work. We will endeavor sincerely to subordinate selfish interest to our country's welfare. This is our pledge.

We understand full well that some of our members will endure sacrifices because of this public pledge. A few selfish employers will take advantage of it to force from us unreasonable concessions they would not otherwise ask. We, therefore, serve this notice: our memories are long; we shall not forget! When this war is over we will take such steps as we then deem proper to right whatever wrongs our people have accepted in compliance with this, our pledge, in this time of national need.

We would be less than fair if we did not state that we know the great majority of our employers are fair-minded and patriotic. They will work side by side with us in the common cause.

To our members: We are proud of your strength and your courage. There's a tremendous job to be done. We know that you will do your full share—and more! There can be no Happy New Year until this war is won. Let's go!

DENVER—The AFL and CIO won an important victory here when the Colorado Supreme Court held invalid sections of the so-called labor peace act requiring unions to incorporate and making strikes unlawful unless authorized by a majority vote by secret ballot.

Signed into law in April, 1943, after an intensive campaign by the Christian American Association, the labor-shackling law was immediately contested in the courts by AFL and CIO unions.

Other provisions of the law which the court said it was powerless to act upon, outlaw the check-off, require unions to conduct secret ballots to elect officers, and prohibit picketing, secondary boycotts and sitdown strikes.

The court held that those sections could not be tested under the state declaratory judgment act under which the case had been brought by the unions. Once the law goes into effect, court tests can be made on specific cases. AFL and CIO spokesmen joined in hailing the decision as a notable victory for organized labor.

KLAN ACTIVE IN TEXAS

AUSTIN, Tex.—Secretary Harry W. Acreman of the Texas Federation of Labor has warned unionists that the Ku Klux Christian American Association, voice of the organized native Fascists in the South, has launched a campaign for an anti-union constitutional amendment for Texas similar to that adopted in Florida and Arkansas, November 7.

Lester Hunt Denounces

(Continued from page 2)

he was for the tax bill which helped the greedy at the expense of the needy.

Willis was against subsidies for food but he was for subsidies for corporations, such as the employers of Eddie Rickenbacker. Commercial air lines saved about 400 million dollars in taxes under this measure.

Willis also voted to kill reciprocal trade agreements with other nations to build-up profitable commercial relations after the war.

He voted against the United Nations relief and rehabilitation plan to help the impoverished and starving peoples of Europe victimized by the German aggression against which Willis refused to arm his own country.

Willis also opposed the soldiers' vote bill and disfranchised thousands of American soldiers fighting against the aggressors Willis failed to recognize when they were on the march.

As scored by THE INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER in October, 1944, Willis voted right only six times on 37 measures of the greatest importance in the most critical period of American history.

This gives him a voting record of only 16.24 per cent right. It was exactly the same score made by the notorious Curly Brooks, senatorial stooge of the Chicago Tribune.

It is worse than the records of the still more notorious Senators Nye of North Dakota and Wheeler of Montana. And it is worse than that of Congressman Day of Illinois.

Day is the man who cabled congratulations to Hitler on his rise to power in 1933. Nye is the man who stated that Germany must have the right to retain a Fascist government after this war. Wheeler is the man who is spear-heading the move for a negotiated peace which would leave Germany strong enough to begin preparing for another war.

Yet Willis was worse than any of them. And a man has to be pretty bad to be worse than Wheeler, Nye and Day.

This is the man who says he will run for re-election on a record that reeks with ignorance, bigotry and prejudice.

Willis did not attract the attention he deserves because he voted quietly and kept his mouth shut. He bored deeply and silently. He didn't tell people what he was doing.

The days of silence have passed. From now on we'll be telling the people of Indiana how their senator voted.

NEWS AND COMMENTS FROM LOCAL NO. 369

By D. E. MAHONEY

Brother Edwin H. Timmons was killed in action in Germany on December 21, 1944. Brother Timmons was a member of the Teamsters Local No. 369 and of the Eagles Lodge in Marion. Memorial services will be held for him by the Eagles Lodge on January 23. Brother Timmons joined Local 369 in 1943 while working for the Sanitary Beverage Co. He went into service in February, 1944.

"TRUCK STOP"

The Clover Service Station, 615 South Walnut St., Muncie, is 100 per cent organized. Gene Engles, owner, would be glad for all business of the drivers going through Muncie and will assist in returned loads.

Brother Endor B. Musice, employed by "Uncle Sam" paid us a visit the other day. Pvt. Musice has been stationed at Camp Flannin, Texas, since going into service July 19, 1944. Glad to have you back, Musice!

Nothing further has developed at the United Cab Co. in Anderson. Men are still out on strike.

Brother Doral Butcher, steward at the Portland Forge, is now employed by "Uncle Sam." Butcher went into service in December and is stationed at Camp Atterbury.

Negotiations have been completed and the contracts are before the War Labor Board for the following companies: Portland Forge and Foundry Co., Ball Stores, Inc., and Harry Antles, contractor for the Portland Forge.

William Leo Masonbrink of Portland, Indiana, who has been in the Army for the last year, has been released to go to work for his former employer, Harry Banker Trucking.

It has been agreed that the contract with the Brown Trueblood Laundry of Marion will remain in full force and effect for another year without any changes.

We received a letter from Jennings A. "Pop" Byers, a former employee of the Silver Fleet Motor

Ft. Wayne Teamster Happy in Service

Here is a good letter from a serviceman who has really seen some service out in the Pacific. He is Corporal R. J. Irwin and in civilian life is a Teamster in Fort Wayne. When the wars are over he'll be back, he says, to help keep the ball rolling.

His letter to the editor of The Indiana Teamster says:

Aleutian Islands,
APO 948.

Dear Sir:

I wish in this way to thank you for your interest in me. Your write-up in The Teamster just hit the bull's-eye.

Up here I'm in a different line of endeavor than I was while at home. Now I'm an Army cook with the Signal Corps. We know our outfit is doing its bit to win the war and every guy is also doing his share.

Our entertainment has improved a lot lately. Our commanding officer has arranged for us to have two shows a week in our recreation hut and, believe me, it means a lot to us. We see some real good shows, too. Last week we saw "Rhapsody in Blue" and "Mrs. Parkington."

We fellows realize that the folks at home are working and doing without lots of things, too. We're only anxious to get back home again as soon as possible.

Keep up the good work through the Teamster and the union, and we will all be back soon to keep the ball rolling.

Wishing you and all the brother members and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Victorious New Year,

As ever,
R. J. IRWIN.

Express in Marion. Brother Byers has been in Arizona for the past year due to ill health. He looks to be back with us in another six months. Brother Byers has been working for Uncle Sam as a Civil Service employee at Luke Field.

Next regular meeting will be held Sunday, February 11, 1945, at 10 a. m., at the Labor Temple in Marion.

HERE'S THE LATEST FROM TERRE HAUTE LOCAL NO. 144

By JACK REYNOLDS

Our general meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p. m. in the Teamsters' Temple.

We have opened our contract with the oil transport companies in Robinson and expect to begin negotiations within the next few days.

We are very sorry to report that we have lost the following members during December, and we wish to extend our deepest sympathy to their bereaved families:

John Wedgewood, employed by Loop Cab Co., was a member of this local since March, 1943; John Prather, a milk hauler, joined this local in 1932; and Rudolph Bedford, an over-the-road driver employed by Merchants Freight System, had been a member since January, 1942.

Things are progressing satisfactorily at the Vigo Ordnance Plant, with Commercial Barge Lines receiving a new contract at the beginning of this year for additional construction.

We are glad to acknowledge that finally, after long, arduous negotiations, we have succeeded in signing all beverage companies to a uniform working agreement. It was the first time this union had ever been able to get representatives of these companies under the same roof; but once this was accomplished, negotiations progressed satisfactorily.

At present we are negotiating a new agreement for the lumber yard drivers, and hope to bring this group up to the regular Building Supply Division.

We have finally received full approval of our National Biscuit Co. contract, which had been modified by the WLB and appealed by the union. This should make those drivers happy, since there will be a sizable chunk of back pay coming to them.

Last-minute note: We won the election at Bauermeister's. The Brewery Workers had been contesting our rights as bargaining agent for these drivers, so we asked for an election and won.

LAFAYETTE NEWS BULLETINS FROM LOCAL 543

By S. W. HELTON

Member of another fighting Lafayette family wounded in Holland—Word has been received that Pfc. Adrain R. Doss is now in France recuperating from wounds received in Holland September 15th, from a German mortar. Adrain is a paratrooper in Co. B 501 and has been overseas 12 months and has 26 Germans to his credit.

His brother, Ralph T. Doss, is stationed at Camp Croft, South Carolina, expecting to be sent to a P.O.E. soon.

Both Adrain and Ralph were members of Local 543 when entering the service. They are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Doss of 639 North Fifth Street, Lafayette, Indiana. Charles, the father, is also a staunch member of this local.

Another son, Staff Sgt. Howard M. Doss, in the Air Corps, is stationed in Italy and has been overseas 30 months.

The Schürman-Lange Co. of Lafayette, has given up the agency of Silver Fleet, who have opened a terminal of their own here.

'Benefits for 279 G. I.'s

In the week ending January 13, 279 new applications for readjustment allowance benefits under the G. I. Bill of Rights were received in Indiana, according to Everett L. Gardner, director of the Employment Security Division.



By Al Lindahl

Dec. 8—Have you seen "Zeke" Niblick open his morning mail? Choice words Zeke must have picked up in his tour with the Army.

Dec. 9—I wish someone would find a suitable name for Dave-Rawhide, Pruneface, Corduroy, Dry Hide Law.

Dec. 10—Elizabeth, Marie, Ann and the rest of the office are starting to worry over the office Christmas party. Understand that a goodly amount of decorations for the ceiling and (insides) are on the order pad.

Dec. 11—Who bought the last pound of coffee? Gordon Weist claims he did so that means it's his turn.

Dec. 12—I think that Harry "Koz" should keep his girls in cigarettes. Don't you, gals?

Dec. 13—Why doesn't Geo. Popp hold a skating party at his place on Barron Lake some night? George, I won't ask to see the upstairs.

Dec. 14—Anyone needing a bartender should consult Clem Deka, as he now knows everything since his tour in society. Understand you picked up a nice piece of change, "Sam."

Dec. 15—Who is the sweet-voiced gal calling Ernie Makielski these nights?

Dec. 16—Thanks to Santa Claus' little helpers in preparing Christmas sacks for the annual party tomorrow. Did I say little? Well, all right, Steve.

Dec. 17—The party and everyone had a fine time. John Gruber sure fit the part of Santa even to his dancing.

Dec. 18—Where's Mary? It is said she was at the party.

Dec. 19—Charlie Lawson is looking for a frame that will hold a pair of . . .

Dec. 20—Sorry I missed on my cupid collection but Ellen and Charlie made it one on Saturday last. Good luck to a couple of swell people.

Dec. 21—Are those stewards waiting for Mike Granat like a small boy for December 25?

Dec. 22—Sorry to hear that "Abie" Helmick is on the sick list. His neighbor, John "Ram" Cobert is still confined at home. Both you guys hurry and come back and I will buy one.

Dec. 23—This has been a long day. First a session with Tom Hendrick, Bruno Balestri and Charlie Lawson with a small amount of comfort. Secondly, a last minute shopping spree with Mike Granat and Carl Theede which is something. But the pay-off is the changing of names. Ruth Feters is now Ruth "Kelley Coburg Flash" Damewood after almost missing the boat. Two swell people who should have more of a honeymoon but they can't keep you at sea all the time, Kel.

Dec. 24-25—Couldn't have asked for a finer Christmas and sincerely hope you and yours had the same.

Dec. 26—Well, that is over with for another year.

Dec. 27—Our loss is the Army's gain today and the best damned keg man in any brewery takes on new duties this date. Good luck to "Hunky" Joe Takacs on his new job which I personally know he will fill to everyone's good. Ernie Makielski will carry on in your absence for you, Joe.

Dec. 28—Kind of expected a pencil this year but there are other years to follow. Hi-yah, Walter.

Dec. 29—Have to get everything "Ship Shape" for the annual inventory; so it states in a letter.

Dec. 30—The usual crews worked hard all day and don't think we didn't miss you, "Ram."

Dec. 31—Finished on time. If any of you guys want to buy anything that weighs a pound send Eddie Roytek or Lott Beczkiewicz and, brother, you will get good weight. Tom Hendrick and yours truly are still waiting for those drinks.

Jan. 1—Well, one thing I can say is that I lasted longer than the old year but the "Bull of the Woods" said that she isn't so sure.

Jan. 2—Forgot to mention that Helen Czesewski had a better Christmas than ever when Ted came home from his camp in Texas on Sunday a. m.

Jan. 3—Virg. Nelson is doing all right out on Billy Goat Heights. How about a side of beef Virg?

Jan. 4—Pearl Eby must have a time wading these snowdrifts.

Jan. 5—Everything fine after this first week of a new year and should go on record to say that it will be a better year for all concerned both in the Service and on the home front. Buying a War Bond will make it so.

TEAMSTER HURLEY KILLED IN FIGHTER PLANE CRASH

A War Department message received by Mr. and Mrs. Mel Hurley of Bloomington stated that their son, Lt. John M. (Jack) Hurley, was killed in an airplane crash in Italy on November 12.

Lt. Hurley, 22 years old, formerly a member of Teamsters' Union Local 73, Clinton, was the pilot of a P-38 Lightning fighter. He had received the Air Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters. He was a veteran of more than thirty missions over eastern and central Europe.

Graduating from Bloomington High School in 1940, Lt. Hurley attended Central Normal College at Danville. He was appointed an aviation cadet on September 15, 1942, and received his wings at Foster Field, Victoria, Texas.

The squadron of which Lt. Hurley was a member is one of the oldest combat squadrons in action, and the group of which it is a unit has been awarded the Presidential Citation.

South Bend Tribune Lauds Teamster Union

(Continued from page 1)

the Servicemen's Center. This costs the union nearly \$100 a week.

"Last but not least," said Mr. Biggs, "I would like to say that the thing that has made all these drives such a success is the wonderful publicity and cooperation we have received both by paper and radio from the South Bend Tribune. It has been a pleasure working with Tribune people."

GENERAL DRIVERS, GARY, RE-ELECT OFFICERS

GARY—Local 142, General Drivers, Warehousemen and Helpers Union has announced the re-election of officers for the local. The men will fill the posts for the next three years. They are as follows:

B. H. Leather, president; Roy Smith, vice-president; Michael Sawchuk, secretary-treasurer, and J. F. Strickland, recording secretary. Roy Griffin is three-year trustee.